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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/806,898	03/23/2004	Adrian P. Stephens	884.B94US1	2401
21186	7590	03/02/2007	EXAMINER	
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A. P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			PEREZ, JULIO R	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				2617
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	03/02/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/806,898	STEPHENS, ADRIAN P.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Julio R. Perez	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 March 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-8, 10-13 and 16-30 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 9, 14 and 15 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 23 March 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/31/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) The invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 2, 8, 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Banister (US 6,775,261).

Regarding claims 1, 8, Banister discloses a method, selecting a group of contiguous communications channels having a specified number of channels (col. 2, lines 64-67, col. 3, lines 12-22, col. 4, lines 8-20, teach a selection of adjacent channels (i.e., contiguous channels)), a center channel col. 2, lines 64-67, col. 5, lines 1-6, col. 6, lines 12-15, 30-32. Note that col. 6, lines 9-19 teach the center of the group of 21 DCCH channels, which read on the center channel, and a control channel (col. 2, lines 65-67, col. 6, lines 14-16, teach dedicated control channels).

Regarding claims 2, 11, Banister discloses wherein selecting the group further includes at least a portion of the contiguous communications channels to include the center channel and the control channel (col. 6, lines 9-19, teach the receiver to include DCCH, control channel, and a center of the group of 21 channels).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, 4, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banister in view of Van De Berg (5,907,812).

Regarding Claims 3, 4, Banister teaches claim 1, but is silent on wherein alternately selecting an additional channel not included in the portion on an opposite, side of the center channel as the control channel, and on a same side of the center channel as the control channel, until the specified number of channels is selected.

Van De Berg teaches a transmission scheme where a sided numbered of channels C1-C25 are spread around the center frequency on the range R, on the opposite or same side of the center frequency, which read on the portion on an opposite side of the center channel as the control channel (Figure 5, col. 7, lines 28-55).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Banister, such that opposite or same side frequencies are chosen to correspond to center and control channels, to provide means to a better selectivity on the whole range of the frequency band.

5. Claims 5, 6, 10, 16, 21, 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banister in view of Kong et al. (US 20040192208A1).

Regarding claims 5, 6, 10, 16, 21, 25, Banister teaches claim 1, but is silent on wherein selecting the group further selecting the control channel to overlap a legacy channel.

Kong teaches a transmission scheme wherein legacy channel transmissions are processed and included with center and control channels (Figure 5A, par. 31, lines 12-17, par. 45, lines 13-15, par. 47).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Banister, such that legacy channels are covered in conjunction to the control channel to provide a greater coverage of the band spectrum.

6. Claims 7, 12, 18, 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banister in view of Kim et al. (US 20030087645A1).

Regarding claims 7, 12, 18, 23, Banister teaches claims 1/8, but is silent on wherein selecting the group is selected according to an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers 802.11 standard.

Kim teaches a transmission scheme wherein group of channels operate in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 standard (par. 31, lines 1-3, par. 32, line 1, par. 38, lines 15).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Banister, such the channel group is selected within the 802.11 standard to provide frequency planning mechanism that serves as a frequency planning of large-scale multi-cell IEEE 802.11 WLANs as well.

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7. Claims 13, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24, 26, 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banister in view Saunders et al (US 20040142696A1).

Regarding claims 13, 19, 24, Banister teaches selecting a first group of contiguous communications channels using a specified control channel (col. 2, lines 64-67, col. 3, lines 12-22, col. 4, lines 8-20, teach a selection of adjacent channels (i.e., contiguous channels)), but is silent on a signed extension channel offset.

Saunders teaches a transmission scheme wherein a numbered of channels are scanned o a burst containing a series of +/- ones frequencies (i.e., channels), which read on signed extension channels (pars. 32, 136).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Banister, such that offset of numbered channels being integrated into the system to provide a mechanism for selecting a wider range on the frequency band.

Regarding claim 20, the combination of Banister and Saunders teaches a value of the signed extension channel offset is selected from an integer (Saunders, par. 136, +/- 1).

Regarding claim 22, the combination of Banister and Saunders teaches a positive value of the signed extension channel offset refers to a frequency spectrum above a spectrum including the control channel, and wherein a negative value of the signed extension channel offset refers to a frequency spectrum below the spectrum including the control channel (Saunders, Figure 21, par. 136).

Regarding claim 26, the combination of Banister and Saunders teaches a memory to couple to the channel selection module and to store an indication of the group (Saunders, pars. 136, 138-139).

Regarding claim 27, the combination of Banister and Saunders teaches a memory to couple to the channel selection module and to store an indication of at least one overlapped legacy channel (Saunders, pars. 136, 138).

Regarding claim 17, the combination of Banister and Kong teaches selecting a second group of contiguous communications channels having at least one of a different specified control channel and a different signed extension channel offset upon detection of a legacy channel overlapped by the first group (par. 31, lines 12-17, par. 45, lines 13-15, par. 47).

8. Claims 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banister and further in view Saunders et al (US 20040142696A1) and Banker et al (US 5485221A).

Regarding claim 28, Banister teaches selecting a first group of contiguous communications channels having a specified control channel (col. 2, lines 64-67, col. 3, lines 12-22, col. 4, lines 8-20, teach a selection of adjacent channels (i.e., contiguous channels)), but is silent on a signed extension channel offset and a display to display information for communication.

Saunders teaches a transmission scheme wherein a numbered of channels are scanned o a burst containing a series of +/- ones frequencies (i.e., channels), which read on signed extension channels (pars. 32, 136).

Banker teaches displaying of virtual channel in a second contiguous portions (col. 19, lines 27-36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Banister, such that offset of numbered channels being integrated into the system to provide a mechanism for selecting a wider range on the frequency band and to provide information visualized during communication.

Regarding claim 29, the combination of Banister, Saunders and Banker disclose an energy conduit to couple to the group and selected from one of an omni directional antenna and a transceiver to couple to the energy conduit and to communicate information using the first group (Saunders, pars 80-81, teach a master transceiver coupled to an omni directional antenna for transferring energy via channels).

Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banister in view of Kong et al. (US 20040192208A1).

9. Regarding claim 30, Banister teaches claim 28, but is silent on wherein selecting the control channel to overlap a legacy channel.

Kong teaches a transmission scheme wherein legacy channel transmissions are processed and included with center and control channels (Figure 5A, par. 31, lines 12-17, par. 45, lines 13-15, par. 47).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Banister, such that legacy channels are covered in conjunction to the control channel to provide a greater coverage of the band spectrum.

Allowable Subject Matter

10. Claims 9, 14, 15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

These claims recite highly specific details, which are not found, either alone or in combination, in the prior art of record.

Conclusion

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Julio R. Perez whose telephone number is (571) 272-7846. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:30 - 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William H. Trost can be reached on (571) 272-7872. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Julio R Perez
Examiner
Art Unit 2617

2/23/07

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